Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller, comprising:

an electro-pneumatic transducer; and

a shut down unit operatively coupled to the electro-pneumatic transducer and configured to respond to a signal received by the electro-pneumatic controller and to cause the electro-pneumatic transducer to provide a pressure output associated with a shut-down condition when the magnitude of the signal crosses a threshold value.

6. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller as defined in claim 4, wherein the shut down unit includes a comparator configured to compare the signal received by the electro-pneumatic controller to the threshold value and based on the comparison vary a condition of the shut down unit to cause the electro-pneumatic transducer to provide the pressure output associated with the shut-down condition.

7. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller as defined in claim 4, wherein the shut down unit includes a switch configured to respond to the signal provided to the electro-pneumatic controller to cause the electro-pneumatic controller to provide the output pressure associated with the shut-down condition.

8. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller as defined in claim 7, wherein the switch includes one of a transistor and a relay.

9. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller as defined in claim 4, further comprising a selector configured to selectively enable the operation of the shut down unit.

10. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller as defined in claim 9, wherein the selector includes a manually actuated switch.

11. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller, comprising:

a control unit;

a shut down unit communicatively coupled to the control unit; and

an electro-pneumatic transducer communicatively coupled to the shut down unit, wherein the shut down unit is configured to cause an output pressure of the electro-pneumatic transducer to be at a pressure associated with a shut-down condition in response to a value of a control signal received by the electro-pneumatic controller.

12. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller as defined in claim 11, wherein the shut down unit includes a comparator and an electronic switch operatively coupled to the comparator.

13. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller as defined in claim 12, wherein the electronic switch includes one of a transistor and a relay.

14. (Original) An electro-pneumatic controller as defined in claim 11, further comprising a shut down selector operatively coupled to the shut down unit and configured to selectively enable the operation of the shut down unit.

15. (Original) A method of shutting down a pneumatically actuated device, comprising:

comparing a control signal received by an electro-pneumatic controller to a predetermined value;

interrupting a signal provided by a control unit of the electro-pneumatic controller to an electro-pneumatic transducer;

changing an output pressure provided by the electro-pneumatic controller in response to interruption of the signal to cause the shut down of the pneumatically actuated device.

16. (Original) A method as defined in claim 15, wherein interrupting the signal provided by the control unit to the electro-pneumatic transducer includes opening an electrical path between the control unit and the electro-pneumatic transducer.

17. (Original) A method as defined in claim 15, wherein interrupting the signal provided by the control unit to the electro-pneumatic transducer includes interrupting the signal only if a shut down selector has been set to an enabling condition.

18. (Original) A method as defined in claim 15, wherein changing the output pressure provided by the electro-pneumatic controller includes reducing the output pressure to a substantially zero pressure.

19. (Original) A method as defined in claim 15, wherein the pneumatically actuated device includes one of a valve and a damper.